

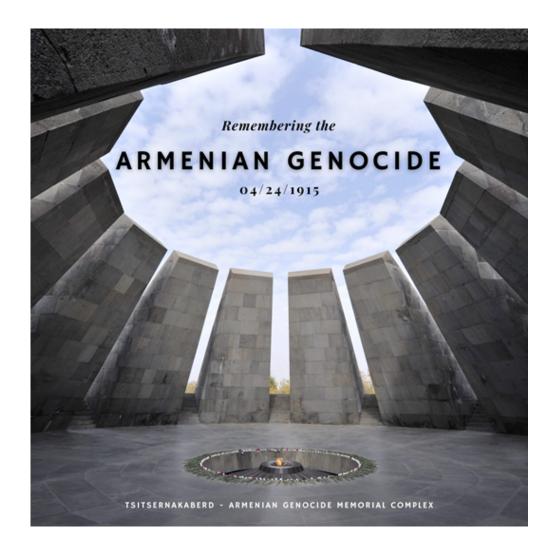
Los Angeles County Assessor JEFF PRANG



SPECIAL BULLETIN

Friends,

Today, we mark the anniversary of the Armenian genocide and the atrocities committed just over 100 years ago. The resilience of the Armenian people across the world, and our fellow Armenian-Americans, serves as inspiration and a reminder of the cruelty that too frequently has visited upon people throughout the world and throughout history. Remembrance of such tragedies, while painful and abhorrent, must serve as a constant reminder to us all of what some parts of humanity are capable of. Too often, there are those who would deny such actions or attempt to erase it from history. April 24th is one of those important dates that remind us that we must recommit ourselves to fighting hate and bigotry wherever we find it.



This is not a new sentiment - but it is frequently overlooked or forgotten, and that's inexcusable. We just can't let that happen.

In 1919, Henry Morgenthau, the U.S. Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire, put the genocide against the Armenia people in perspective after speaking directly with the Turkish authorities at the time:

"When the Turkish authorities gave the orders for these deportations, they were merely giving the death warrant to a whole race; they understood this well, and, in their conversations with me, they made no particular attempt to conceal the fact. . . . The great massacres and persecutions of the past seem almost insignificant when compared to the sufferings of the Armenian race in 1915."

These words are as true today as they were over a century ago. President Biden has pledged to recognize this tragedy for what it was: a genocide, despite the vehement objections from the Turkish government, which remains in denial. With an estimated 1.5 million Armenians murdered, this recognition by American leadership is long overdue. Tomorrow is a painful day for many families whose forebears were victims, and their journey to escape such oppression led them to the United States, which has been a welcoming home.

Despite COVID-19, there will be a few community events commemorating Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day, and a flyer below list them for those wishing to attend. As always, please remember to observe COVID-19 safety protocols when attending any type of gathering.

Never again!
In solidarity,
JEFF PRANG

Assessor



Assessor Prang was first elected in 2014 and is the 27th Assessor for Los Angeles County. He runs the largest office of its kind in the nation, employing 1,400 people with an annual budget cresting near \$200 million. The 2020 assessment roll topped out near \$1.77 trillion and provides about \$17 billion in vital public services. For more information, please visit us online at Assessor.LACounty.gov, on Facebook at Facebook.com/LACAssessor, or on Twitter at @LACAssessor.